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Peking Sets Up Rival Comintern to Soviet

MAIN BASE IS IN ASIA—
'OBSERVERS' ELSEWHERE

By Seymour Freidin
Executive Editor, Foreign News
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Red China's own international apparatus, still somewhat loose in organization but operative, has taken the field to win partisans and terrorize enemies on a large scale.

Its capabilities and widespread extent throughout Asia were indicated last week in India. Without warning, security police swooped on nearly 1,000 pro-Chinese in the Indian Communist party and locked them up.

This was only the beginning. Discovered through investigation was the role of Indonesian Communists and diplomats, serving as paymasters and intelligence agents for Red China inside India. They used, for exam-

ple, the Indonesian Consulate in Calcutta to pay off pro-Chinese cadres.

Apart from Communist China's active and supervisory role in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, the international network is of prime political importance. It means that Peking has put together a global organization, loyal to Red China, as distinct from the Soviet Union.

For some time before his downfall, ex-Soviet Premier Khrushchev tried hard to retreat a modern version of the Comintern. That was the Soviet-created international apparatus, officially liquidated in 1943 to satisfy war time Western Allies. But it continued to operate under other guises until the Com-

inform which served for Europe only and died in the early '50s.

Red China, in the view of profoundly upset non-aligned governments in Asia, beat Russia to the punch with the new network.

A fledgling group, comprised of pro-Chinese communist splinters in some European parties, have something like "observer" status. The same role is prudently apportioned to pro-Peking comrades from Africa and Latin America.

Known to be included within the network besides Indonesians are Burmese, Chinese Malaysians, Indians, Koreans, Japanese, Ceylonese and Thais. They are distributed in key, strategic centers of their own countries. Where their nationality is of no especial hindrance, as Chinese in Malaysia, they operate from home base, so to speak, with Red Chinese funds at their disposal.

Some of the pay-off men at the Indonesian Consulate in Calcutta—suddenly closed

by Indonesia, by the way—were planted by active and agile D. N. Aidit, Indonesian Communist leader. Only 41, Mr. Aidit has in a short time become a trusted confidant of the higherups of the Chinese party.

Forgotten is his long devotion to Mr. Khrushchev. His turn-around to Red China has been complete and useful. It was Mr. Aidit, as the Herald Tribune disclosed on Dec. 15, who brought President Sukarno an offer of Chinese Communist aid. The Chinese propose to send guerrilla and military specialists to help against Malaysia.

In some of the subversive political work undertaken by the China-sponsored international, a special Asian grouping is cited as an objective. If

that's built up, activists maintain, then a similar operation can be organized for Africa.

Afterwards, when liaison in politico-economic fields has proved fruitful, they can be fused harmoniously. The United Nations is pooh-poohed—Indonesia has just announced it will quit the UN—and the appeal is couched directly to underdeveloped nations in Asia and Africa, with emphasis on Asia first.

The Indonesian Communist party, third largest in the world after Red China and the USSR, has drawn the biggest inside-man assignment to spread the word and trouble in Asia. Control of the international, for which no particular name is yet known, is vested totally in Red China's party leaders.